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Responsibilities of Government.

Referring to the articles which have appeared in this paper on bad whiskey, the Birmingham Ledger says:

"Men in all ages have insisted on making and drinking stimulants. For an hundred years good people have been trying to prevent men going to the dogs from drink, and the results are good. It is now disgraceful to get drunk, and fewer and fewer men seek that road downward."

"Bad whiskey will check the men not too far gone, and is in that way really a temperance adjunct. Men do not reform in crowds; reform is an individual matter, and the arguments that only good whiskey should be used may make men stop and think. So such arguments as The Times-Dispatch puts forward may properly be called left-handed temperance talk."

We have not been discussing the temperance question from a moral point of view. That is an issue unto itself. Our contention is that much of the alcoholic liquor sold in this day is worse than impure—that it is positively poisonous—and the consumption of such liquors is a treacherous enemy of the liquor evil. Some men are going to drink alcoholic liquors, no matter what sort of legal regulations are made, and while the government cannot prevent them from drinking, it can prevent liquor dealers from selling poisonous drinks, and that is the point.

The Times-Dispatch does not believe in prohibition. Taking the practical view, we are convinced that, in the cities and towns, certainly, or wherever there is a large collection of men, it is better to have liquor sold under the sanction and regulation of the law; but when the government localizes the liquor traffic, it assumes a responsibility which it cannot shirk. When the city of Richmond, for example, grants a franchise to a street car company to operate its cars on the highways of the city, it requires such a company to take all possible precautionary measures to preserve the public safety. It is not permitted to such a company to operate cars that are dangerous or to operate any sort of cars with dangerous men. By the same token, when the city of Richmond grants license to a man to conduct a saloon, it is under obligation to see that the man is himself a "proper person," as the law provides; that his place of business is a "suitable place," and especially that the liquor which he sells is pure. By liquors, we do not mean necessarily the most expensive liquors. We simply mean that the stuff shall be free from harmful adulteration. When the city fails to do this, it neglects a bounden duty, and its neglect is reckless and unpardonable.

Abolish impure liquors and at once we are rid of the major part of the liquor evil.

Mr. Wright on College Athletics.

Hon. Carroll D. Wright, ex-commissioner of labor, and now a college president, is inclined to be dependent over the part that athletic sports are playing in the American university. In an address on Thursday before the American Institute of Instruction, he referred to the demoralizing influence of college athletics, hinted at unfortunate "physical consequences" likely to result to players, and concluded that competitive games ought to be abolished. As to athletics in general, he is plainly not over enthusiastic, but upon competitive athletics he would lay down a flat veto.

It is obvious that there is a distinction without a difference. The difficulty with the learned doctor's theory is, in short, that competition is the very heart and soul of all athletics. Athletics is competition; and the competitive spirit is no more real, often no more keen, in a big match between a couple of crack college teams, than in a good game of back-yard shiny. Eliminate competition and you obliterate athletics; and the muscular hero is degraded to a pair of dumbbells and a dull half an hour daily at chest-weights.

We hope that President Wright would

not really reduce athletics to this dreary residuum. How flat, stale and utterly unalluring would be the athlete's life then—how unstimulated and unenjoyed! If President Wright runs his own Clark College on this basis, we are sure that it must be a very poky place to go to school. It is comforting to think, however, that we needn't go there; and that there would be no immediate likelihood that any of the important colleges would follow Clark's example.

Wise college presidents are not going to put intercollegiate contests under the ban, because, for one thing, they are powerful attractors of students. Big athletic events bring the college very prominently into public notice. The annual Yale-Princeton football game, for example, obtains more space in leading newspapers than the commencement exercises of either, probably of both combined. Everybody is interested in it and talks about it; and it is no more than natural that a healthy youth should prefer to choose an Alma Mater where somebody has heard the name of. Popularly speaking, a good team is one of the best advertisements a college can have, and alert presidents, of the new "business" type, are very well aware of it.

But above this somewhat utilitarian reason, there is another and higher one. Athletic sports, even under conditions far from ideal, are a good thing for a college and an excellent thing for the men who take a hand in them. To the college they bring an increase in college spirit, a unification and centralization of interest, a lesson of individual sacrifice to the common good of all. To the player they bring physical improvement of unmistakable value in the future task of earning a living, and, unless he is hopelessly the wrong sort, a growth in courage, in fairness, in mental alertness and self reliance, and in personal efficiency. No one has yet succeeded in showing that a good college athlete goes out into the world less fitted for playing a worthy part in the battle of life than one who has been merely a good student.

On the other hand, statistics compiled a year or two from "Who's Who in America," in regard to the latter careers of members of Harvard crews, developed the interesting fact, if we remember aright, that the percentage of craftsmen who had made what would commonly be regarded as "success in life," was far larger than the percentage of "successful" members of the college honorary scholarship society.

As to the "demoralizing influences," which President Wright rather vaguely mentions in this connection, we are not sure that we know just what he means. If he has in mind, however, the drift toward commercialism in athletics, of which we had something to say in these columns some time ago, we are heartily in accord with him. Commercialism has no place in sport, and ought to be stamped out on sight.

We are still more opposed, of course, to trickery and slugging on the field, but athletics must not be abolished, because of needless abuses.

The way to get the best out of undergraduate athletics, we believe, is not to abolish, but to reform. Cut out the professional coach; do away with the college "agents"; proselytizing visits to the "prep" school; have an end to this pernicious determination to win at any cost. Let us return to the old conception of sport as a gentleman's pastime, courting healthy rivalry, honestly ambitious to excel, yet playing for sport's sake only. This kind of athletics by all means let us have in plenty.

The Government's Way.

In this week's issue of the Baltimore Manufacturers' Record Mr. C. F. Z. Caracrist, who has had several years' engineering experience in South America and Central America, and who is well acquainted with the conditions in Panama, where he has recently returned to this country, discusses a number of phases of the Panama Canal problem and deals frankly with the situation.

He says that the work should either be irreparably placed in the hands of our able army engineers (to satisfy the administration's hankering after interference) or totally transferred to civilians. "Experience has long since taught," he proceeds, "that the government cannot and never has successfully executed a great engineering work of public utility without civilian contractors and other outside aid. Even in small engineering undertakings government work has cost far in excess of current prices."

No doubt of it. It is almost impossible for any government, especially a government like ours, where politics plays a part in everything, to do business according to the principles and rules of good business. Long ago a well known engineer, who was familiar with the Panama situation, expressed the opinion that the government should let the work to contract in short sections, with a separate contractor for each section. We approved this view at the time, and such current events have fortified it. Mr. Caracrist says that under the existing system the work of construction will never be completed. It is not yet too late to adopt the contract system.

Sowing and Reaping.

The conviction of a white man for holding another white man in peonage has aroused the South to a realizing sense of the truth of the government's contention that an abuse inflicted on one race is rapidly extended to another, unless it is checked before it has time to become an "institution."—Boston Transcript.

It has for years been the endeavor of the sincere newspapers of the South to arouse the Southern whites to a realizing sense of that truth. This paper has preached at all seasons the doctrine that if white men cheated the negro in election contests, they would by and by cheat each other; that the lynching of negroes would by and by lead to the lynching of white men, and so on to the end of the list of lawless acts. We have also insisted that the whites could not wrong the blacks in any manner and in any degree without doing the white race more harm from a moral point of view

than the black race. A man may recover from an injury received; usually he does. A man never recovers from the effect upon his own character from an injury he has maliciously done another. It is even so with races.

The Kansas railroad pia has the record up to date. It recently blocked the Santa Fe road for two hours. The engineer and fireman of a train running out of Emporia ate pia from a railroad lunch counter and started their run. Before they reached the next station, however, they both became deathly sick and for two hours rolled in agony on the floor of the cab. The train was, of course, stopped and traffic suspended until the ples quit working. We believe in retributive justice, and we have long believed that sooner or later the railroad lunch counter would react upon the corporation. We are sorry, however, that in this case the victims were innocent bystanders, so to speak, instead of the responsible officials. Thirteen years ago last month we partook of stale chicken on that same Santa Fe road—and the memory of it lingers still to now. We have great sympathy with the pia victims above noted. We know somewhat of their sufferings.

Judge Foster, who presides in one of the New York city courts did not get a chance at any of the big Equitable thieves, but he took occasion when dealing with one of the smaller fry to insinuate what might have happened had he gotten a chance at larger game. Last Wednesday he had before him a man who had been in some way concerned in the theft of \$52,000 from the Equitable. In pronouncing sentence on this fellow, Judge Foster remarked:

"You stole from the Equitable, but your methods were very crude and bungling. If you had, instead of collusion with an outsider, colluded with an insider and thereby had your salary raised to \$50,000, and then divided with the other man, the result would not have been a bit more objectionable from a moral or ethical standpoint, and would have been no more hurtful to the policyholders; but possibly you would not have been at the bar of justice."

Leading Democrats of Massachusetts are bringing pressure to bear on Governor Douglas to change his mind concerning his stay in politics. Mr. Douglas announced his decision not long ago to go back to private life and the manufacture of shoes, saying he had quickly gotten enough of being a politician and of playing Governor. He has made a good and efficient chief executive so far, and the Democrats think they will have no trouble in electing him for another term. It remains to be seen how tired Governor Douglas is of politics and of office holding in the Bay State. One taste of official life usually sharpens the appetite for it.

In the horrible story we printed yesterday of the negro who murdered a whole ship's company, occurred this statement: "Up to last Sunday he was still alive, though it is firmly believed that he will be tortured to death. The laws of Honduras prohibit capital punishment, but the people will take the case into their own hands."

We commend this statement to those tender-hearted persons who oppose capital punishment by law. If capital punishment should be abolished, the number of lynchings would be enormously increased.

The Governor's friends in Richmond prefer to prepare no statement on the subject, but to let the statement come from the Governor on his return to the city.—Petersburg Index-Appel.

Does not our contemporary, which claims to have treated Governor Montague with perfect fairness during the campaign, think that it should have followed this course and have given the Governor an opportunity to be heard before sitting in judgment upon him?

Mayor Dunne, of Chicago, says: "That man Tom Lawson is about the worst anarchist I have ever heard of." Lawson has the floor next, and his opinion of Chicago's Mayor will doubtless be interesting.

It is estimated that the gold mine of Mr. Walter Scott, the Death Valley miner, is worth thirty-three billion dollars. If so, the wildest dreams of "gold inflation" will soon be realized.

Even a schoolboy could have foreseen that David Bennett's Hill's salary would be cut off when your Uncle Grover got to overlooking the Equitable books.

Norway still wants a king. There are plenty of men who can get, but men and kings do not always come in the same package.

A wise Mikado will hurry up peace negotiations while Russia has enough credit left to negotiate a loan to pay indemnity.

It is understood that Lieutenant Perry did not invest any of that \$50,000 in ice for his Northern excursion.

A few more July rains, and the Hanover watermelon crop will be in danger of dying with the hollow horn.

If old Virginia was ever any damper than at the present time, it must have been during the flood.

England and France could get up a pretty good team to trot by the Kaiser's rapid automobile.

How would you like to be an umbrella dealer in this cloudy July? Wouldn't you have a cinch?

Amelia Courthouse will be the capital of Virginia for a few hours to day.

Anyhow, the throne of Norway does not seem to be worth fighting about.

The hungry mosquito is with us and he wants a bite.

The candidate's motto: Make hay while the courts meet.

Payne
is Coming.

GENERAL PORTER SATISFIED BODY IS THAT OF PAUL JONES

Ambassador Reaches New York
and Tells of How Remains
Were Identified.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, July 14.—General Horace Porter, for the last eight years the American ambassador to France, arrived in New York last night on the Hamburg-American liner *Deutschland*. General Porter refused to discuss politics or international diplomacy from any point of view. He, however, was quite willing to discuss the search he conducted to recover the body of Admiral John Paul Jones.

"I have no more doubt," said General Porter, "that the body now on the way to America is that of John Paul Jones than I have that the body in the tomb on Riverside Drive is that of General Grant, or that the one in the mausoleum at Mount Vernon is that of George Washington."

"You must remember that there were more portraits and more busts made and more histories written of Admiral Jones than of any man, with the exception of Napoleon, who ever lived. Furthermore, I know that he was buried in a leaden coffin. We know the body was in alcohol and wrapped in tin foil, and that the bust made of him by Houdon was the most accurate in the world."

"Of these leaden coffins five were found. Four of them were nameless. The fifth did not, and it was this one that contained Admiral Jones's body. The body was incased in tin foil and immersed in alcohol. There was also the packing in hay and straw, which had been done, as we knew, to protect it from the brackish water of the sea."

"The French anthropologists are the greatest in the world, and their measurements showed that between the head of the dead sailor and the bust of Houdon



GENERAL HORACE PORTER.

there was not a difference of as much as two millimeters. Then there was the exact color of the hair—brown, sprinkled with gray. There was the initial of the Admiral on the linen."

"Again, it must also be remembered that the body was in a remarkable state of preservation, and the comparison necessary to establish absolute identity was, therefore, not difficult. I found unmistakable evidence of bronchial pneumonia, which the Admiral had in Russia, as well as of Bright's disease, the malady that caused his death in Paris."

"Admiral Jones, as is well known, was a fastidious man in dress. The clothes on the body found in Paris were of the finest texture."

"Then I recollect another remarkable fact. In the examination of the body one of the surgeons looked at the ear of the dead man and remarked, 'I have never seen anything like this. There was a doctor turned to the Houdon bust, and there was the identical peculiarity. It is absolutely certain that the body is that of the Admiral.'"

General Porter will be for some time a guest of his son-in-law, Clarence Porter, at No. 575 Fifth Avenue.

Brief Items From Everywhere.

Woman Knocked Man Down.

ANSONIA, CONN., July 14.—Mrs. Charles Harding, one of the best known women of this city, threw to the ground a man who was brutally beating his sixteen-year-old son, while twenty men looked on, afraid to interfere.

Mrs. Harding heard the screams of the lad and pushed her way through the crowd, despite the efforts of the men to detain her. She caught the infuriated man by the coat collar and threw him to the ground.

Pies Caused Blockade.
TOPEKA, KAN., July 14.—Nells Jorgensen and W. D. Johnson, engineer and fireman of a Santa Fe freight train running out of Emporia, yesterday morning devoured two railroad lunch counter pies. Both men grew deathly sick and stopped the train.

For two hours they lay on the floor of the engine cab in agony, unable to move the train, which blocked the main line of the Santa Fe. With the recovery of the men the block was lifted.

Cassatt in Yacht Mishap.
BAR HARBOR, ME., July 14.—A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, while cruising yesterday afternoon in the *Sead*, his thirty-rater, carried away his mast, but suffered no serious mishap, as a launch was near at hand and towed him to the harbor.

Cassatt is an enthusiastic yachtsman and is fearless, for he does not hesitate to go out in his small raceboat in all sorts of weather, and the smoky "southwester" that prevailed yesterday had no terrors for him. Mr. Cassatt was at the wheel when the mast was snapped by a sudden squall.

Mitchell Loses All.
WILKESBARRE, PA., July 14.—A report has reached this city that President John Mitchell, of the Mine Workers' Union, has lost \$2,000 through the

failure of a bank at his home in Spring Valley, Ill., and that this sum represented his entire savings.

This is a revelation to those who thought he was accumulating money by writing labor laws and the sale of his book on organized labor.

Invite Togo to New York.
NEW YORK, July 14.—Mayor McCall's special committee to arrange for the celebration of the centenary of steam navigation met at the City Hall yesterday. Oscar Straus presided. There was an informal talk about the celebration, which all members agree should be elaborate and impressive. It is to be a superb water pageant.

The suggestion has been made that Admiral Togo and his flagship be invited. Aaron Vanderhill, one of the members of the committee, said that the far-reaching effects of the event which it was proposed to celebrate.

Leopold Visits Morgan.
LONDON, July 14.—King Leopold of Belgium came to Dover from Ostend yesterday for the purpose of seeing J. Pierpont Morgan, who landed with His Majesty on board the latter's yacht. After a prolonged interview, Mr. Morgan returned to London.

It is reported that his meeting with the King of the Belgians concerned the financing of important schemes for the development of the Belgian Congo.

Premiers to Meet.
ROME, July 14.—The Paris, announcing an approaching meeting at Aix, France, of the Signor Tittoni, the Italian foreign minister, and M. Rouvier, the French Premier, says they will exchange views on important questions of foreign policy, and especially regarding common action by France and Italy in the Mediterranean.

Dying Nurse Revealed Story.
CHICAGO, ILL., July 14.—Kidnapped by his nurse twenty years ago, Thomas Leydon, Jr., twenty-three years old, and his aged father were reunited yesterday in Aurora. The nurse, who was known as Mrs. Sly, revealed to the young man that he had a father living and that Mrs. Sly was his mother. Thomas Leydon, Sr. and his son will invite all their relatives and friends to a reunion party next Sunday.

Beauty Doctor Arrested.
NEW YORK, July 14.—Dr. Andrew L. Naylor, reputed creator of eye, nose and mouth features for aesthetic effect, was in the Tombs Police Court yesterday charged with having obtained money under false pretenses. The case was continued until Monday.

Naylor was arrested last night on complaint of Mrs. Josephine Ware, of Denver, who alleged that Naylor failed to remove facial wrinkles as promised despite the fact that she had paid \$100 to have the blemishes to her beauty eradicated.

Owens Ribbon of Land.
EASTON, Pa., July 14.—Innocent Sacchetti has a writ of ejectment issued to recover possession of a strip of land which he alleges he owns. The strip lies in the middle of an inch wide on Third Street and one inch wide on Sigreaves Street.

WOOD'S Seed Potatoes
IN COLD STORAGE
For Late Planting.

Planted in June and July, these yield large crops of fine potatoes ready for digging just before cold weather comes on. Carrying through the winter in first-class condition for either home use or market. By our methods of carrying these Late Seed Potatoes in cold storage, we are enabled to supply them unsprouted and in first-class, sound condition, just when they are required for late planting.

Send your orders early so as to get the kinds you want, but don't order shipment until you are ready to plant as the potatoes commenced to sprout very soon after being taken out of cold storage. Prices quoted on request.

We are producers for Cow Peas, Soy Beans, Millet Seed, Sorghum, etc. Reasonable prices. List telling all about seeds for summer planting, mailed on request.

T. W. Wood & Sons, Seedsmen,
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

SENSATION PROMISED TO RICHMOND PUBLIC

Payne, Great "Hobby" King Has
at Last Decided to Visit
This City.

Payne is coming! This simple announcement in almost any other city than Richmond would be sufficient to set all tongues wagging and make the wisest speculate on "what is the up to now?" There is not another man in America who has created more startling sensations, did more unusual or unexpected things, or been written of and criticized more freely and favorably by press and public than Payne. Some may call him a crank, but the fact is that he has a well-defined purpose, and his plans show a master hand in execution.

Just now Payne is making a leisurely and random tour of the larger Eastern cities, and, being a millionaire, in spending his expenses on the public eye, his present "hobby," and he may be correctly dubbed the man with the hobbies, in to travel in special or private cars, carrying a big uniformed brass band, a troupe of high class performers, over twenty-five people in all, make a masterly parade, on which he scatters Uncle Sam's good coin to the four winds, for which the multitudes scramble, and somewhere on the largest available open lot give an absolutely free performance by his company. The object? Of course, there is one. Payne likes to see a large crowd; likes to be the center of attraction, and, above all, likes to afford a means of amusement. Carnegie gives the public free libraries; Rockefeller gives them school endowments; and Payne gives them his peculiar hobby; but Payne gives them free amusement.

Any suggestion of egotism on Payne's part is pardonable in the evident satisfaction he himself derives from his methods. The world is inclined to think that a success in anything is a success in everything. What if he does live in high estate, carry his own carriages, auto cars and surrounds himself with every luxury? What if he does wear from twenty-five to forty thousand dollars worth of diamonds and \$20 gold collars for buttons on every suit? What if he does throw his money away? It is his personal privilege, and he unselfishly shares his wealth and his amusements with the public without charge. He has plenty and always a means of accumulating more.

To recite his many harmless eccentricities and surprising yet interesting stunts in various parts of the United States would be a long drawn story, but he it said to his credit, he never intrudes, intrudes or insults. None who have ever known Payne can regret the acquaintance, and none who have seen him can forget.

His advance arrangements are in the hands of Jim H. Edmondson, a popular and well known newspaper man of the Central West, who is here attending the details of Payne's visit to Richmond. When asked how long would be his stay, meaning Payne, Mr. Edmondson smilingly said: "Ask the stars. I can't say. I have handled many attractions of a varied nature before, but in Payne I have one who will follow no advice but his own, and since he is liberally providing the long green, accepting nothing but the best that his money can buy for himself and all connected with him, why, of course, you know, I don't remonstrate or even suggest."

Edmondson added further that Payne was as able to stay a week or a month as a day, and might be expected to spring anything from banqueting a bunch of factory hands to chartering a train for a free excursion to the seashore. All he has to do is to carry out Payne's whims, conveyed, for Payne was so eccentric that he kept even his own people guessing.

A DAY IN HISTORY
July 14th.

Through an error the history for today was printed yesterday. That intended for yesterday is therefore printed to-day.

1420—Battle of Prague; 4,000 Hussites, under Ziska, repelled the Bohemian army of 30,000, under the Emperor Sigismund.

1678—Battle of Landskrona (Dano-Swedish War), between the Swedes, under Charles XI., and the Danes, under Christian V., in which the Danes suffered a serious defeat.

1678—The expedition under M. de la Salle set out from Rochelle, consisting of thirty men, among whom were pilots, smiths, carpenters and other useful artists.

1683—Mustapha, the Grand Vizier, set down before Vienna with an army of 150,000 Turks, and opened the trenches.

1694—Bombardment and destruction of Dieppe, in France, by the English.

1707—Battle of Bethune, during the war of the Spanish succession.

1719—Bell, the traveler, left St. Petersburg with Ismayloff, the ambassador, and numerous retinue, for China.

They took the route by Moscow, Siberia and the great Tartar deserts, and did not reach Peking until sixteen months after their departure from the Russian capital, having undergone great fatigue during the journey.

1768—The grand Suez canal commenced, uniting the Trent with the Mersey, and opening a water communication with both the east and west coasts of England.

1790—Battle of Penobscot Bay.

1790—Grand National Convention of France, at Paris, in the Field of Mars, when the civil oath was administered.

1791—Commencement of the Birmingham riots, which were occasioned by the celebration of the anniversary of the French Revolution, by some private individuals.

1798—The British took Simonstown, Cape of Good Hope.

1798—Battle of Chebrassa, in Egypt; the French, under Bonaparte, defeated the Mamelukes by land and water.

1808—Grand National Convention of France, at Paris, in the Field of Mars, when the civil oath was administered.

1853—Commodore Perry landed at Japan and delivered to the Imperial Commissioner the letter from the American President.

1853—The Crystal Palace opened at New York, in the presence of the President of the United States and many other dignitaries.

Peace Powwow.
The Times-Dispatch calls a new and catchy word, and at the same time makes a good suggestion in the following:

"What is the matter with Old Point as a place for peace powwows? It is a plenty of government land on which to hold it. The cool breezes are all that heart can desire."

No more enjoyable place could be found just now for the holding of the "peace powwow," as it seems desirable to hold it upon government

Quick SUNBURN Relief

To relieve the stinging of sunburn and windburn and to quickly heal the skin and restore the complexion, many of our customers prefer

Blanks' Velveteen Toilet Lotion
to anything else in our stock. It is so cooling, so soothing and so healing to an irritated skin that it is used regularly wherever introduced.

BLANKS,
The Prescription Druggist, Inc.
Elekt. Stores, Inc., Distributors
Pharmaceuticals Employed.

Herald Street Branch, 211 East Broad Street
Clay Street Branch, corner Hancock and Clay Streets
Randolph Street Branch, Randolph and Beverly Streets

Pine Street Branch, Pine and Athenaeum Streets
Twenty-eighth and Broad Streets, Rhine's Drug Store
Twenty-eighth and N. Street Branch, Twenty-eighth and N. Street Pharmacy, Twenty-eighth and Venable Street Branch, East Pharmacy

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